

REMARKS

Applicant is in receipt of the Office Action mailed May 10, 2005. Claims 1-43 were pending. Claims 1, 7, 9, 10, 12, 15, 21, 23, 24, 26, 29-31, 35, and 37-41 have been amended. Claims 5, 6, 8, 19, 20, 22, 33, 34, and 36 have been canceled. One of two claims originally numbered as claim 29 has been re-numbered as claim 44. Accordingly, claims 1-4, 7, 9-18, 21, 23-32, 35, and 37-44 remain pending in the application.

Objections to the Claims

The Office Action objected to the presence of two claims numbered as claim 29. Applicant has amended one of the originally filed claims numbered as claim 29 to be numbered as claim 44. The renumbered claim is now located after claim 43 in the listing of claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 8-11, 13, 14, 22-25, 27, 28, 36, 37, 39, 40, 42, and 43 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant thanks the Examiner for consideration of these claims. Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 8 and all intervening claims. Applicant has amended independent claim 15 to include the limitations of claim 22 and all intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 29 to include the limitations of claim 36 and all intervening claims. Applicant has amended independent claim 41 to include the limitations of claim 42.

Section 102 and 103 Rejections

Claims 1, 4-7, 15, 18-21, 29, and 32-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kartalopoulos (U.S. Patent No. 5,606,551). Claims 2, 16, and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kartalopoulos in view of Hou (U.S. Patent No. 5,513,322). Claims 3, 12, 17, 26, 31, and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kartalopoulos. Claim 41 was rejected

under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kartalopoulos in view of Hao et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,728,214), hereinafter “Hao.”

In light of the claim amendments submitted herewith, Applicant respectfully submits that the §102(b) and §103(a) rejections are moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-4, 7, 9-18, 21, 23-32, 35, and 37-44 are in condition for allowance and requests withdrawal of the §102(b) and §103(a) rejections.

CONCLUSION


In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If a phone interview would speed allowance of any pending claims, such is requested at the Examiner's convenience.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel PC Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5681-81700/BNK.

Also enclosed herewith are the following items:

☒ Return Receipt Postcard

Respectfully submitted,



B. Noël Kivlin
Reg. No. 33,929
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)

Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C.
P.O. Box 398
Austin, Texas 78767-0398
Phone: (512) 853-8840
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